

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

HON. KAREN L. THURMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of Florida Women's Soccer Team. The Gators brought home the 1998 NCAA Women's Soccer Championship in only their fourth year of existence. Women's soccer is a relatively new competitive sport. But you would never have known that looking at the way these women played on Sunday, December 6.

That's the day these well-honed athletes will remember for the rest of their lives. They won the championship game against the University of North Carolina before a record crowd of more than 10,500 fans. The pressure was really on to beat the Tar Heels—well recognized for their 70-match unbeaten streak and numerous NCAA tournament wins.

Some people may have considered the Gators the new kids on the block. But they were out to prove themselves. And in doing so, the Gators became the youngest program this decade to win a title. The program was formed only four years ago by coach Becky Burleigh. She also made history. She became the first woman head coach to win an NCAA soccer championship.

Following the winning game, the Palm Beach Post quoted Burleigh saying, "I can't believe it." The coach's reaction clearly describes her excitement. But I would like to clarify the record. This talented woman knew all along her team could do it. When she started recruiting for the squad's first season, she told her young freshmen players they would go to the final Four by graduation. And that happened.

Burleigh's fine eye for recruiting talent and her ability to mold and inspire took these women to the top. In January, Burleigh was named coach of the year by the National Soccer Coaches of America Association. Before that, the same association named her the coach of the year for the Southeast region. And I'm sure there's much more recognition coming her way and the Gators' way in the future.

I want to congratulate Burleigh and her coaching team: Assistant Coaches Victor Campbell and Tiffany Thompson, Volunteer Coach Matthew Mitchell, Manager Scott Barbee, and Athletic Trainer Michael Duck.

I also want to individually congratulate the entire team: Meredith Flaherty, who was named the tournament's Defensive Most Valuable Player, Danielle Fotopoulos, who was named the tournament's Offensive Most Valuable Player, Danielle Bass, Erin Baxter, Keisha Bell, Christie Brady, Jill DiBerardino, Kerri Doran, Erin Gilhart, Karyn Hall, Michelle Harris, Jordan Kellgren, Genie Leonard, Alexis MacKenzie, Kelly Maher, Heather Mitts, Adrienne Moreira, Lisa Olinyk, Angie Olson, Lynn Pattishall, Melissa Pini, Renee Reynolds, Andrea Sellers, Whitney Singer, Jill Stevens, Katie Tullis, Abby Wambach, Tracy Ward and Sarah Yohe.

Go Gators!

ON THE CONTINUING STEEL CRISIS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call upon the other body to pass H.R. 975, the steel import limitation bill. The House passed this bill by an overwhelming margin because the policy of this Administration has failed to protect the American steel industry and its workers from unfair competition. But a bill does not become a law without votes from both Houses of Congress.

While America waits for the other side to vote on H.R. 975, steel imports have begun to climb again. This should be an important reminder that nothing the Administration is pursuing adequately limits unfairly low priced steel imports. Though the Administration is ineffective in preserving the American steel industry, the Administration is actively defending the American banana industry in a trade dispute with Europe. But does the banana industry employ 160,000 American workers? No. Does nearly every state in the Northeast and Southeast and Southwest have a banana industry? No. Are foreign bananas crowding out the American banana business in the U.S.? No. Those facts have not stopped the Administration from pulling out every stop to protect a banana industry that does not exist in America.

Bananas did not build America. Steel did. The only practical solution to the steel import crisis is to make H.R. 975 into law.

TRIBUTE TO BETTY ADELSTEIN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Betty Adelstein, an outstanding individual who has devoted her life to her family and to serving the community. Mrs. Adelstein will turn 90 on Wednesday and celebrated May 2, 1999 at a party given her family and friends.

She is a vibrant, dynamic, caring woman who drives to St. Vincent Hospital three days a week to volunteer in the office of the Director of Pediatrics. She has accumulated over 10,000 hours of volunteer service at the hospital and, during the past twenty years, she has given of herself and her time to various Staten Island organizations. Before moving to Staten Island, she spent nearly fifty years as a resident of the Bronx.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Adelstein was born in New Britain, Connecticut on May 5, 1909, a first generation American. From the age of five, she helped sell newspapers in her father's candy store. At fourteen years of age, after the shop was closed, she was taken out of school and brought to New York to help in the vegetable store her father opened there, leaving her mother, 4 brothers and a sister behind. When she was sixteen, the family moved to the Bronx from New Britain.

Mrs. Adelstein finished high school at night. Several years later, she met her husband,

David, an electrical engineer. They were married in 1932 and remained in the Bronx for forty-one years until his death in 1973. In 1975, she moved to Staten Island to be near her daughter, son-in-law and grandson. It was then last that she began her long career as a volunteer, which continues to this day. She is truly a source of inspiration to all who know her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing a happy 90th birthday to Betty Adelstein.

TRIBUTE TO SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the First District of Virginia's Hellenic community as it celebrates the 50th anniversary of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Newport News.

Greek immigrants have lived and worked on the Virginia Peninsula from as early as 1900. From its humble beginnings to today, the Greek community has played a significant role in the growth and prosperity of the Virginia Peninsula. It also has established a number of associations and organizations for its members, which add to the strength of the community as a whole. The benefits of such associations are innumerable.

In 1929, a small group of Greek-American men on the Peninsula organized the Woodrow Wilson Chapter of the American Hellenic Educational and Progressive Association (AHEPA) while a group of Greek-American women organized the Greek Women's Penelope Society, an independent organization dedicated to community service. The Greek community soon began meeting regularly at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on 34th Street in Newport News and by 1934 a constitution was drafted to govern the growing community. The Hellenic Educational Society also was formed in 1934. This organization served as a community board to oversee the education of the young.

In 1944, a committee was formed to develop plans to build a church. Within three years, ground was broken on land near the Victory Arch in Newport News and Saints Constantine and Helen was completed by 1949. Then Archbishop Athenagoras—later Patriarch—participated in the dedication of the church. At that time, the congregation numbered 50 families. There are more than 1,000 members of the church today.

Soon after the Saints Constantine and Helen was built, a Philoptochos Chapter was formed to assist the needy on the Peninsula. This chapter is still in existence and the majority of the church's contributions to charitable organizations on the local, regional, national and international levels originates from this group.

As the number of Greek families in the community began to grow, so did the need for more space. In 1958, three school rooms were added to the church to provide an area for Sunday school classes. This provided both religious and language education for the children

and any interested members of the Peninsula community. These efforts enhanced the spirit of the community by encouraging cultural identification.

By 1966, land was purchased on Traverse Road in Newport News to build a community center and a new church. The Hellenic Community Center opened in 1975 and is the centerpiece of the Greek community. It also is one of the largest gathering places available for groups to meet on the Peninsula. I, myself, have used the center for several functions.

Ground was broken for a new church in July of 1981 and within a year services were being held in the new building. It was consecrated by Archbishop Iakovos in 1984.

Since 1967, Saints Constantine and Helen has held an annual festival to share the culture and traditions of the Greek community with Peninsula. Having attended the event for many years, I know first hand the enthusiasm of our community for the celebration. I also have witnessed the success of many of Saints Constantine and Helen's programs.

I take great pride in being a member of the Order of AHEPA. My wife, Laura, is equally proud of being a member of the Daughters of Penelope. It is truly an honor to represent this outstanding segment of the community in Congress.

Again, I wish to commend both Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church and the Hellenic community on the Virginia Peninsula. They nourish each other and make possible the success and contributions of each.

It is my hope and expectation that the Hellenic community on the Peninsula will continue to succeed, and that the next 50 years will be as, or more, notable than the last.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL T. WILTSIE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michael T. Wiltsie, a young man from the 4th Congressional District whose bravery I commend and whose actions I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives.

On Sept. 2, 1998, Michael was serving as a safety patrol officer near Ganiard Elementary School in Mount Pleasant, Mich. He and an adult crossing guard were stationed at the corner of Broadway and Adams streets, a busy intersection.

What happened next could have been a tragedy, but instead is the story of an heroic 12-year old whose quick thinking effectively saved the life of a 7-year-old boy.

The adult crossing guard had just walked to the center of the street to stop traffic when the 7-year old walked around Michael's outstretched arms to follow the crossing guard. At that moment, a truck making a left-hand turn failed to stop at the stop sign and passed between Michael and the crossing guard. Michael reached out and grabbed the little boy by his backpack, pulling him to safety just as the truck sped by.

Michael is one of the six young students being honored today at the AAA's School Safety Patrol Lifesaving Award Ceremony in Washington, D.C. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Lifesaving Award, which recognizes those patrols who risked their own lives to save the lives of others. More than one-half million children serve as patrols at 50,000 schools.

It is a special privilege for me to represent Michael in the U.S. House of Representatives. Our halls here are filled with the statues and memories of American men and women who have unselfishly given to others. I am pleased today to submit this tribute to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, to ensure that Michael's bravery is also recorded for history.

THE 24TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC FALL OF SOUTH VIETNAM TO COMMUNISM

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, April 30, 1975 marked the beginning of a treacherous boat journey for many Vietnamese who sought refuge in an unknown land and an uncertain future. These individuals risked everything for a chance to live freely and provide better opportunities for their children and families. I rise today to pay special tribute and recognize the valiant efforts to our Vietnam War Veterans and to the Vietnamese who fought and died for freedom and democracy in Viet Nam.

Earlier this month, I traveled to Viet Nam to meet with representatives of the U.S. and Vietnamese government to express my concern for the lack of human, religious and political rights. During my visit, I met with several prominent human rights activists including Dr. Nguyen Dan Que, Tran Huu Duyen, the Venerable Quang Do and the Archbishop of Saigon, Pham Minh Man. I learned first hand that despite the release of several prisoners of conscience under a presidential amnesty in September 1998, public criticism of the government by dissidents is still not tolerated. The few who do speak out publicly and advocate peaceful reform continue to be harassed and imprisoned.

As we recently witnessed, the protest that has taken place in Little Saigon, Orange County, California is a reminder to all Americans how sacred human rights, freedom and democracy are. For many, the display of the communist flag is a reminder of the pain and sufferings after 1975.

Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on this tragic day it is our duty as Members of Congress to honor the memory of the individuals that fought for liberty and democracy in Viet Nam.

REPORT FROM ADAMS COUNTY

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my "Report from Indiana" where I honor

distinguished Hoosiers who are actively engaged in their communities helping others.

Mr. Speaker, it has always been my strong belief that individuals and communities can do a better job of caring for those who need help in our society than the federal government. The wonderfully kind and committed Hoosiers who I have met traveling around Indiana have not changed my view.

Ruthie and I have met hundreds of individuals who are committed to making our communities a better place in which to live and raise our children—we call them "Hoosier Heroes".

I recognized this genuine Hoosier Hero in Adams County, Indiana at a Lincoln Day dinner speech. He is Alan Converset, who is a sales manager at WZBD Adams County Radio. By working tirelessly on behalf of the less fortunate, Alan epitomizes a "Hoosier Hero".

Alan served as the president of the Decatur Rotary Club and Chairman of the United Way golf outing to raise money for those who need a helping hand from someone who cares. He also works on the March of Dimes Walk America Committee.

Alan's work has given so many people the most precious gift possible, hope. He doesn't do it for the pay which is zilch; he does it for the smiles and laughter. You are a true hero in my book, doing good work for others with no other motive than Christian charity.

Alan Converset deserves the gratitude of the country, state, and nation, and I thank him here today on the floor of the House of Representatives.

A.J. HERRERA SELECTED AS PLAYER OF THE YEAR FOR PARADE MAGAZINE'S 21ST ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention a young man in our community, A.J. Herrera, who has been selected Player of the Year on Parade magazine's 21st annual High School Boys Soccer Team.

A.J. Herrera has represented the United States in France, Slovakia, and Russia as a three-year member of the U.S. National Team. He has hopes of playing on the U.S. Olympic Team. In discussions regarding his soccer ability, A.J. references the support he has received from family, friends, teammates, and coaches. Although he has an athletic gift to play soccer, A.J.'s No. 1 priority is earning a college degree.

A.J. Herrera is an example of young people throughout our communities who are involved in sports and other extracurricular activities that build character and citizenship. Learning lessons about setting and achieving goals, staying physically fit and being part of a team. The community is proud of his accomplishments. Join me in recognizing A.J.'s achievements and contributions to Albuquerque, New Mexico.